

Summary of Regular Meeting  
WEG Equine Program Planning Group  
CPE Conference Room B, Frankfort, Kentucky  
February 6, 2009, 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Present: Judy Willard (Morehead); Milt Toby (Midway); Bob Coleman, Nancy Cox, Kristen Harvey, Holly Wiemers, Elizabeth LaBonty (UK); Harold Rainwater (Asbury); Christy Watkins (Murray by ITV); Richard Wilcke (UofL); Sarah Coleman (Georgetown); Miko Pattie, Linda Linville (CPE)

The primary business of the meeting was to receive updates on, and to discuss the plans of, three important committees within the Planning Group.

The first was the Youth Festival Committee. The report was delivered by Kristen Harvey of the University of Kentucky, who, with Fernanda Camargo, has been working most closely with this project. Kristen reported that the 2010 National Youth Leaders' Symposium, to be sponsored by the American Youth Horse Council, will be held in Lexington on March, 19-21. The Kentucky Youth Festival, a special one-day program, will be held in conjunction on that first day, Friday, March 19, at the new arena at the Kentucky Horse Park.

Kristen explained that the target audience for the Kentucky Youth Festival will include horse-oriented youth with prior knowledge as well as non-horse youth with no familiarity with either horses or the World Equestrian Games (WEG). Festival program activities will consist of live demonstrations of all eight disciplines included in the WEG, interactive and hands-on displays, and other demonstrations, booths and vendors. The consensus of the Group was that the Youth Festival Committee is on the right track and all are excited.

The second committee to report was the one dealing with a joint Equine Education booth for use at WEG and other venues. Judy Willard of Morehead State reported that her committee was still in the process of getting bids and dimensions for a display. Rich Wilcke mentioned a proposal to display equine-education opportunities in Mexico, and it was widely agreed that there will be no shortage of appropriate events and venues for the booth once finished. Judy said that she would have a meeting of her committee and report back in April.

The third committee to report was that of the Equine-Education Track at the 2010 Kentucky International Equine Summit, which will again be sponsored by the University of Louisville's Equine Industry Program and the University of Kentucky's Equine Summit on April 26 and 27. Bob Coleman is chairman and he went through a series of ideas for possible speakers and panel subjects related to topic of equine-oriented higher education. He said he will be in Colorado at the Equine Science Society meeting in June, and will solicit ideas and opinions from many ESS members involved in higher education.

The meeting was adjourned with plans for the next meeting to be held at the CPE Conference Room B on Thursday, April 9, 2009, 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

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